GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3551
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005
ECOLOGY OF VRINDAVAN
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the ecological problems being faced by a large number of devotees/pilgrims in Vrindavan (Mathura), Uttar Pradesh due to congestion and filthy environment in the way of Holy Parikrama of Shri Banke Bihari Temple;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any figures of devotees who visited the temple during the last three years and average number of devotees visiting per day;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remove congestion and provide clean environment there?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)&(b) The core area of Vrindavan consists of 39 major temples, including Banke Bihari Temple. Poor road conditions, unorganised parking areas and traffic flow cause nuisance for the pilgrims. Lack of drinking water, improper sanitation, dumping of domestic waste further add to the grievance of the pilgrims and create unhealthy environmental conditions along the parikrama marg.

(c)&(d) The city of Vrindavan receives tourists ranging from 10,000 to 25,000 per day, which increases upto 10 lakhs during festivals like Janmashtami, Radhashtami and Holi.

(e) Government has taken various steps to remove congestion and provide clean environment, which include −

- An Eco city Vrindavan Project with overall objective of improving environment through implementation of various projects related to solid waste management, traffic & transportation, plantation & landscaping and sewerage & drainage.

- A technical document on Eco city Development Pan for the identified areas of Vrindavan has been prepared by consultants from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, which entails comprehensive improvement along the roads connecting all major pilgrim spots, restoration / development of Gandhi Park, Brahmkund, and improvement of Banke Bihari Temple area and parikrama path.